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Meeting
Thursday
October 23, 1952

Staff meeting. The question was raised of the action taken by the United States Delegation at the General Assembly yesterday in New York in voting that the Tunisian and Moroccan items should be taken up immediately after the Korean question. Hickerson explained that the committee meeting had been [redacted] confused, that Gross had used his best judgment as to what to do, and [redacted] there were technical considerations involved which had made this action necessary and perhaps inevitable. I am sure [redacted] the action was motivated in part by the feeling that somehow we would derive an advantage from it in good will toward us on the part of the Arab-Asian-African bloc. This, I think, represents a great error of judgment if such a consideration entered into our Delegation's calculations. Immediately after the meeting Ambassador Bonnet called me and talked for half an hour about how bad the repercussions of this incident would be in France. I had previously talked to Phil Jessup by telephone to New York, and [redacted] been told by Phil that the Secretary expected to see Hoppenot later in the day and explain to him why we had done this. [redacted] Everyone in our European bureau, as well as elsewhere in the Department, with whom I have talked this morning considers [redacted] our UN delegation has made a [redacted] mistake.

As an indication that our action at the General Assembly on the Tunisian-Moroccan questions did not gain us any support from the Asians, [redacted] the countries of Burma, Pakistan, Iran, India and Indonesia all voted with the Soviet bloc this afternoon to have the North Koreans attend the debate on Korea. The motion was defeated.

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When we sided with these nations yesterday, we went against the U. K. and all the European nations with the exception of Norway, which abstained, [redacted]

Mrs. William Oatis came in with Mr. Vedeler to see me this morning. She seems [redacted] understanding [redacted] and appreciative of what the Department is trying to do to effect her husband's release.

Ken Downs and John Osborne of Time called on me and we had [redacted] a [redacted] talk about the Iranian and other matters.

Walter Lippman telephoned me to ask for background information on the British insistence [redacted] they be represented in an observer status on ANZUS. I have arranged through Doc for Alexis Johnson to brief him further on this.

Bedell Smith and Alan Kirk came for the regular PSB lunch with me. We discussed many topics - the only one of importance from a PSB standpoint being further consideration of the reorganization of that agency.

I swore in Dr. John W. Davis as TCA Country Director for Liberia, and later some of those who assisted at the ceremony were photographed together. There was a delegation of twelve negro land grant college presidents to see Dr. Davis take his oath.

Dr. Charles Lowry, a protestant clergyman in Chevy Chase, who went to Florence at the invitation of its mayor, came in to make a report on his trip and left copies of the [redacted] speeches delivered there.

George Perkins, knowing [redacted] I was going to the Austrian Embassy tonight, came to talk to me about the fall of the Austrian Government.

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The Austrian Cabinet has been in office longer than any other government in Europe. The immediate cause of its resignation was a dispute over the budget. The President has not yet accepted the resignation.

I had a good deal of chat back and forth with Messrs. Perlman and Rosenfield about the President's Commission on Immigration and Naturalization, of which Butch Fisher is a member and which is expected to make a report to the President by January 1. The Committee wants Dean to testify on foreign policy aspects of immigration legislation. This is a large subject and will require much preparation on Dean's part.

We went to a dinner tonight at the Austrian Embassy. It was [redacted] pleasant but I did not have much opportunity to talk to the Ambassador about the situation in his country. Both he and his wife are [redacted] attractive.

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